



## Fact Sheet:

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### Integrated Training Area Management (ITAM)

September 1995

(LL 23)

#### The Problem

Heavier and faster vehicles, longer combat engagement distances, increased mechanization, combined arms exercises, more concentrated training due to Base Realignment and Closure, and testing requirements for advanced weapons systems and other materiel have increased environmental impacts on U.S. Army installations. Furthermore, all installations must comply with environmental regulations and strive to conserve the natural resources on which effective training and testing rely. The Army must address these issues to maintain combat readiness and at the same time promote good stewardship of its lands. Traditionally, installations have maintained separate programs for forestry, fish and wildlife management, erosion control, training area maintenance, and agricultural leases. The Army had no long-range approach to integrating land management activities with their training and testing missions.

#### The Technology

The U.S. Army Construction Engineering Research Laboratories (CERL) developed Integrated Training Area Management (ITAM) as a comprehensive approach to land management on all Army installations. It includes the following major elements:

- 1) Land Condition Trend Analysis (LCTA)--inventory and monitoring of natural resources to document their condition and assess the ability of the land to withstand impacts from training and testing;
- 2) Environmental Awareness--education of officers and enlisted troops to foster wise use of the land;
- 3) Land Rehabilitation and Maintenance (LRAM)--revegetation and erosion control to restore the land and enhance testing and training realism;
- 4) Training Requirements Integration (TRI)--optimization of land use by integrating mission requirements with the carrying capacity of the land;
- 5) Geographic Information Systems--tools, such as the Geographic Resources Analysis Support System, to help manage and manipulate data; and
- 6) Threatened and Endangered Species (TES)--an ecosystems approach to protecting and managing these species with the least impact on training land use.

All elements support land management decisions on an installation.

### **Benefits/Savings**

ITAM program benefits are four-fold: 1) increased training realism; 2) reduced environmental damage and effective land rehabilitation; 3) reduced costs for land management and environmental compliance; and 4) enhanced public image of the Army as a conscientious land steward.

Information collected in the ITAM program has additional applications in natural resource management plans, environmental assessments and impact statements, and management of threatened and endangered species.

### **Status**

In 1988, the Assistant Secretary of the Army for Installations and Logistics, the Training and Doctrine Command, and the Office of the Chief of Engineers endorsed ITAM as necessary to support the Army mission and its lands. In 1993, proponency for ITAM transferred to the Deputy Chief of Staff for Operations (DCSOPS). At the same time, responsibility for implementing ITAM was assigned to the Army Environmental Center (AEC). CERL is continuing research and

development to modify the existing ITAM technology for application to military land management and to enhance land management and systems technologies for unique military requirements.

### **Points of Contact**

CERL POCs are [Dr. William Severinghaus](#), COMM 217-398-5483, and [Robert Lacey](#), COMM 217-373-6772. For the major elements of the program, contact [Dr. David Price](#) for LCTA applications, COMM 217-373-4420; [Dr. David Tazik](#) for TES, COMM 217-373-4420; [Robert Lacey](#) for TRI; [Michael DeNight](#) for Environmental Awareness, COMM 217-398-5405; and [Robert Riggins](#) for LRAM, COMM 217-373-4420. All can be reached at 800-USA-CERL; FAX 217-398-5470; or CERL, ATTN: CECER-LL, P.O. Box 9005, Champaign, IL 61826-9005. To send any CERL POC e-mail, simply click on their name. AEC POC is Paul Thies, COMM 410-671-3206.

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